

one data signal, which is provided in a pre-charge circuit and amplified into a boost current. As discussed in col. 17, lines 63-67 and col. 18, lines 1-12, LeChevalier teaches a pre-charge period followed by an exposure period. During the pre-charge period current sources are connected to charge capacitors Ccol. The pre-charge period is followed by the exposure period, where the current sources are connected to the boost circuit and raise the voltage Vc. This higher Vc voltage provides a gain which is used to amplify the circuit data signal, as discussed in col. 20, lines 20-22. LeChevalier, therefore, teaches a system for the amplification of one data signal, and does not teach the use of two different data signals.

In contrast, the claimed subject matter positively recites "a first mode in which the data signal," where the term "the data signal" specifically defines a data signal associated with a first mode. Additionally, the subject matter of the pending claims also positively recites a "second mode in which a data signal different from the data signal," where the term "the data signal" again refers to a data signal specifically used during a first mode. Therefore, the second mode must have a signal different from the data signal, where the data signal must be a data signal provided during a first mode.

For at least the above reasons, LeChevalier cannot reasonably be considered to have suggested the combination of all the features in at least independent claims 1, 3, 8 and 10. Further, claims 2, 4-7, 9 and 11-12 also would not have been suggested by the applied reference for at least the respective dependence of these claims on allowable independent claims 1, 3, 8 and 10, as enumerated above, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each claim recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the subject matter of claims 1-12 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-12 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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